UNITED NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1991/86
6 March 1991

ENGLISH
Original: ARABIC/ENGLISH

COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 12 (b)

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED KUWAIT

Letter dated 25 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter dated 27 October 1990, sent from the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed al-Jaber Al-Sabah to Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

We would appreciate it very much if the letter could be translated into the official United Nations languages so it can be circulated and be considered as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Dr. Salem Haber al-Almad Al-Sabah
Ambassador/Permanent Representative

GE.91-11616/9499A

READEX FICHE

27 October 1990

Sir,

I wish to refer to the letter that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Iraqi régime has requested should be circulated, together with its enclosures, as a General Assembly and Security Council document. In his letter he alleges that a letter addressed by the Minister of the Interior of Kuwait to the Director of the General State Security Authority proves the existence of collusion between the Government of Kuwait and the Government of the United States of America to destablize - as he puts it - the situation in Iraq.

I trust that I need not elaborate on the contents of this alleged letter, replete as it is with fabrications and lies that have absolutely no factual basis. The letter uses expressions and forms of official address that have never been in use in Kuwait. Moreover, it deals with matters that, to anyone in his right mind, would deem incompatible with the values and principles in which Kuwait has always believed and has assiduously followed as the basis for its principled policy.

I have no doubt that you are aware of the brutal practices of the tyrannical Iraqi régime in my country, Kuwait. These practices, which are far removed from usual human behaviour, have resulted in everything possible being pillaged, plundered, and carried away, thereby revealing the true nature of this régime and its danger to humanity at large. You realize, I am sure that a bloodthirty régime of this kind would have no scruples whatever about using any legitimate or illegitimate means available to it if they served its ends - even in violation of normal standards of human behaviour and God's teachings.

It should therefore surprise no one that a régime with such a record of crime and brutality should act in a way designed to serve its evil and aggressive ends, such as the fabrication of fictitious stories or the falsification of documents, of which the letter I have referred to is but the latest in a series of examples.

A régime like this can only be expected to come out with yet more such fabrications, for it stands alone against the entire international community. Furthermore, one wonders how such allegations could possibly be believed, coming as they do from a régime that has not allowed humanitarian organizations to visit Kuwait to monitor the living conditions of the Kuwaiti people and of those living in Kuwait with a view to trying to alleviate their

Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
Secretary-General of the United Nations

suffering which is the result of the Iraqi régime's tyrannical and brutal practices that have included unprecedented acts of murder, population displacement, and starvation. This anarchical Iraqi régime has, moreover, perpetuated heinous acts such as the obliteration of Kuwait's heritage and the destruction of historical archives and documents, all in an effort to erase Kuwaiti identity. Mention should also be made of the savage treatment of diplomats accredited to the State of Kuwait, as well as other innocent foreign nationals who had worked in Kuwaiti Government departments or in public or private companies and who were arrested to serve as human shields in contravention of international norms and practices and in violation of the most basic human values.

All this prompted me to address this letter to you in order to refute the allegations made in the letter of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the aggressor Iraqi régime. I would request you to circulate this letter as an official General Assembly and Security Council document.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah,
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister
for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait